## THE WHISKY RING.

SECRETARY BRISTOW'S WAR TO BE FOUGHT OUT.

CIVIL AND CRIMINAL SUITS TO BE PROSECUTED AGAINST FRAUDULENT DISTILLERS AND UNFAITH-FUL REVENUE OFFICERS-ANOTHER ILLICIT DIS-TILLERY UNEARTHED-COMMISSIONER PRAIT TO TAKE POSSESSION OF HIS OFFICE TO-DAY.

INT TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE. Washington, May 11 .- The stunning blow dealt upon the Whisky Ring yesterday has been the topic of the day in Washington, and great credit has been accorded to Secretary Bristow and Solicitor Wilson for the able manner in which they planned and executed the campaign. The full and detailed history of the whole movement, printed in THE TRIBUNE this morning, leaves almost nothing more to record except the fact that the Secretary intends to follow up the advantage be has already gained, and to deal with all those who have been engaged in defrauding the Government, whether they be distillers or dealers in whisky and highwines or officers of the Government, in such a way as will prevent any resuscitation of the Ring. In pursuance of these plans he has already caused instructions to be forwarded to the proper officers, not only in the three cities where the large seizures were made, but wherever else dealers or officers have been implicated, for immediate prosecutions to be begun. In cases where property has once begun; where bondsmen of the guilty persons can be reached, sait for recovery of the full penalty on the bonds will be pressed; where manufacturers, dealers, or officers have subjected themselves to criminal prosecution for violation of the revenue laws or for perjury, the evidence will at once be laid before the grand juries and arrests promptly made. In all cases where Internal Revenue officers have been implicated in the frauds, or are shown to have neglected their duty, they will be removed, as soon as their places can be filled or the proof against them can be collected, and such of them as are guilty of criminal acts will be prosecuted. Numerous dispatches have been sent ont to-day to all parts of the country, calling for transcripts of papers and books Department; and it is not unlikely that many more distilleries and rectifying houses which have been guilty of fraud may be discovered. One was unguilty of fraud may be discovered. One was uncarthed in Pekin to-day, and a telegraphic order was sent to-night for its seizure. This distillery has been

The officers who made the seizures yesterday in Chicago and St. Louis met with no epposition. In tor. All Milwaukee pistols were shown at some of the places, and threats were made. In one case a Government officer engaged in making a seizure was arrested by the local authorities and hurried off to jail, and in to aw another case an officer was held until the owners of the place had removed all papers, to prevent them from falling into his hands.

Ex-Senator Pratt, the new Commissioner of Internal Revenue, has arrived in Washington, and will take charge of his office to-morrow.

STATEMENTS FROM RECEIVERS OF LIQUOR. EXPLANATIONS OF FIRMS IN THIS CITY TO WHOM WHISKY HAS BEEN SHIPPED BY FRAUDULENT DISTILLERS-THEY ASSERT THAT THEY COULD NOT KNOW WHETHER OR NOT THE WHISKY

WAS "CROOKED." Inquiries were made yesterday, by reporters of THE TRIBUNE, of the merchants mentioned yesterday in the account of the war on the Whisky Ring as receivers of "crocked" whishy from Western distilleries. Thomas when questioned concerning the matter, said that he was of St. Louis, the proprietor of one of the rectifying houses St. Louis, and the receiver had no means of determining barrels were used more than once, could not be known. When the consignments reached New-York the gaugers here copied the names and numbers from the stamps affixed, and these again were copied in the On every barrel was marked the name of the distiller, the district and State in which the distillery was located, and the name of the gauger, the date when the tax the tax-puld number. These are all copied in the Government books. No fraud could exist except in collusion duplication either of stamps or barrels, as the date on which the tax was paid was immediately anterior to the date on which the shipment was made. no fraud here, so far as he knew; and he thought it exceedingly improbable that any would be attempted in tection would be much less than here. All that dealers here had to decide was that the stamps were correct further than that they could not determine any more were stelen. Mr. Thacher said that he had had business connections with Mr. Bensberg for 18 years, and was well assured that all he had purchased from him was "straight." On some of the barrels which were examined in Broad-st. yesterday, the stamps, which were and could have been removed with little difficulty, aithough they were conceled.

W. S. Miller of the firm of W. S. Miller & Co., commission

misrepresented by The Think Ne of yesterday. It was Frazer & Co. of St. Louis, and by George Bensberg, in which serious discrepancies existed between the amount on which tax was paid and the amount shipped. The error, Mr. Miller said, arose from a miscenceptica. The tax was paid on pure alcohol, which contained 94 pc cant of pure liquor and 6 per cut of water. The amount shipped was in proof gallons, which contained about 56

brought about.

James A. Webb & Co. of No. 165 Peuri-st, are dealers it alond and cologne spirits. Mr. Webb stated that they never received whisky. They buy alcohol only, generally obtaining it from the commission merchants in New York, although they had sometimes purchased at market prices from Rockle, Junker A. Co., or the Union Coopel Pastiliery Company of Chicago. They sell nothing of commission, but deal with druggests and caemists. Although had no means of knowing whether it was crooked or ordered by them has been properly stamped and they had no means of knowing whether it was crooked or orderewise. They said they had known that there must have been frands, as alcohol was sold under the market prices; but they had waited in hop that something might be done to protect monest dealers. A responsible employed of Seth Ely & Co. of No. 14: Front-st., commission merchants, said that that firm had no means of knowing whether the whisky bought and sold by them was or was not honestly threat. They padform 50 to 30 per cent of the value of the liquer, on significant commissions of the stanges in a book, and all stock bought by them was regularly stamped. They were unable to detect fraud in the goods sent to them. They were gind that the Government had attacked the King, as under the present state of affairs they were unable to run their distillery in Brooklyn; but they hoped lode so if the frauds in the West were abelished by the Webb & Co. of No. 165 Pearl-st, are dealers in

INFORMATION FROM LOCAL REVENUE OFFICERS.

WHAT HAS BEEN DONE AND WHAT IS PROPOSED IN SUPERVISOR HAWLEY'S OFFICE - DISTILLERIES AND SALES OF WHISKY IN BROOKLYN-HONEST DISTILLERS ENCOURAGED BY THE EXPOSURE OF THE RING-LITTLE DISTILLING DONE IN NEW-

At the office of Supervisor Hawley in Cedarst. very little additional information was attainable coning the war on the king, THE TRIBUNE's dispatche of yesterday having covered every point. Supervisor clerk of the office, stated that he had no news to impart. It is true that his office was cooperating with the Western

nishing information. For example, the New-York consignees of the frandulently distilled whisky kept records of the quantity, quality, brand, name of the distiller, &c. All that was necessary, therefore, was to inspect the books of the merchants or dealers in whisky here, and the Federal officers could obtain a this point, and the evidence necessary to prove the guilt of the distiller. How much "crooked" whisky had been received in the aggregate it would be almost impossible fact that it was illicitly distilled, Mr. Birdsall would not undertake to say. What action would be taken against the helders of "crocked" whisky be could not He did not assert that the whisky comtheir merchandise in the regular way from the West. upon all whisky that had not paid taxes according to law, Mr. Birdsall replied in the affirmative, but said that it would be an onerous task to go through all the warehouses and examine each package for "frau!" whisky. Still no effort would be spared to protect the interests of the Government. As yet only a few lots of "crooked" whisky in this city had been detained; nothing had actu-

ally been seized. There are no distilleries in operation in New-York, and only one or two in the vicinity. The illicit business which was once so profitable here, has been ruined by the more extensive and systematic operations of fraudulent distilleries in the West. Mr. Birdsall did not believe that Whisky Ring and the recent Western combination. The former was completely routed in 1868 and 1869, and had never been rehabilitated. The latter was of recent

growth, perhaps within a year.

When asked directly for information concerning the next movement of the Internal Revenue authorities, Mr. Birdsall said that he could not give this. He had received dispatches from St. Louis and Washington, but of

State, which includes Brooklyn, are two, with a daily capacity of 1,600 gallons, or one-seventh of that of all the whereas if they were suppressed merely there lector of Internal Bevenue in Brooklyn, states that the tax paid on distilled spirits in that district for the year ending Jan. 1, 1875, was \$662,395 75, the total collections in the district for the same time being \$3,978,and latest seizure was made on October 30, 1874. The

THE SEIZURES IN CHICAGO. NO NEW SEIZURES YESTERDAY-APPRAISERS

CHICAGO, Ill., May 11.-The raid on the distilleries in Chicago, Milwaukee, and St. Louis by the United States Revenue Department grew out of definite charges of conspiracles to defraud the revenue, in which certain officials and distillers were implicated. No new seizures were made to-day, but Mr. Elmer Washburn and assistants were busy all the morning making inventories of the wares found at the different places closed up yes-Collector Wadsworth has this morning apnotited appraisers for the establishments seized yester-

H. Herr appeals are to value the property school at the distilleries of G. J. Russell, Luke Shore Distillery Company, and Union Copper Distilling Company; rectifying establishments of Goldson & Eastman, Roelle, Junker & Co., and Parker R. Mason. Phillip Wabsworth.

The object of the appraisement is to enable the New York District Court to fix the bonds of the owners.

## ALBANY.

A CANAL RING SUIT.

THE STANWIX HALL LETTINGS OF 1860-THE ATTOR-NEY-GENERAL'S TUIT AGAINST JOHN LEAHY AND JARVIS LORD TO BE CALLED THIS WEEK-A WITNESS WHO WILL HAVE MUCH TO TELL.

posure of the Canal King, some, at least, of the methods and operations are now likely to receive in licial attention. The suit of The People against John Leahy and Jarvis Lord, but really against Jarvis Lord-for Leahy is only one of the myriad dummes of the Lord family-will probably be called before Judge Westbrook, in the Supreme Court, in this city, on Thursday or Friday of this week. This is one of Attorney-General Barlow's suits which Deputy Attorney-General Fairchild is now pressing, and is of especial interest, as it involves the history of the infamous Stanwix Hall lettings of 1866, the full details of which are said never to have reached the public ear. At that day's lettings a contract was to be awarded for repairs on the Chemung Canal and feeder for five years from Jan. 1, 1867. The meeting of Canal Ring contractors to auction off the privilege of bidding for this work was held, as has often been described, immediately before the meeting of the Canal Contracting Board. It was agreed among them, Lord and Leahy being present, that the person who would pay the most for the sole privilege of bidding for the work and for the bids should receive them and control them to the end, with the understanding, so the complaint charges, that the successful bidder "should destroy and omit to put in before said Contracting Board such of said bids as offered to do said work at fair and reasonable prices," The defendants bought all the bids at the meeting, and paid, it is charged, large sums of money to other persons to induce them to withdraw or destroy their bids. Some of the mutilated bids are said to be still on file in the Auditor's office. Leahy's bid for the work in question was \$36,000 a year, and the contract was necessarily awarded to him, according to the ideas of official duty that prevailed among canal officers at that time. The contract was at once assigned to Lord, and he received under it \$180,000. The complaint alleges that \$25,000 would have been a fair price for the contract, and that, therefore, by this conspiracy the State was defrauded of \$11,000 a year, or \$55,000, and suit is brought to

The manner in which the Lords, father and son,

canal, the character of their vouchers, etc., have been the subject of quiet but thorough investigation for some months back, and some interesting revelations may be expected. There is even hint of one or two items of evidence of a real dramatic interest. This is one of the contracts, by the way, where the Lords are said to have made up their pay-rolls largely from the local directory; and there will probably be some testimony submitted on this head, though I am not at liberty to indicate its tenor. If the Great Defendant of the Canal Ring, Jarvis Lord, goes upon the stand, and gets into the hands of Mr. Fairchild, it is more than likely that before his testimony concludes the public will be still better in-

formed than THE TRIBUNE has made it, as to the

e Lord family. For, on that subject, at least,

Jarvis Lord is more learned than THE TEIBUNE. (BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.)

ALBANY, May 11 .- The case of The People against John Leahy and Jarvis Lord, which was one Attorney-General Barlow's cases against the participants in the Stanwix Hall lettings of 1966, and which Deputy Attorney-General Fairchild has been pressing of late, was called in the Supreme Court to-day before Judge between what is alleged to have been a fair price for keeping in repair the Chemung Canal and feeder for ave that the defendant, who is really Jarvis Lord-for Leally ence to the trial of the facis, and some interesting disclosures were anticipated; but it was finally decided to erbrook this morning was therefore on a motion to dis by Mr. Lyman Tremain, who announced his ability to prove Mr. Lord "as innocent as a babe unborn." Judge Westerbrook reserved his decision, a result which was apparently a disappointment favor, the Deputy Attorney-General will at once appeal

ERS ADDED TO THE AMOUNT OF \$89,326-A Die by the local officials, and which I berewith transmit CONFERENCE COMMITTEE APPOINTED-A LONG to your honorable body.

up in the scenate this morning, real a third time, and passed. As it is charged that \$750,000 had been added y the Senate to the amounts originally named by the individually by frequent motions to reduce amounts. by the addition of \$1,336 in small items.

The item giving the rallway man clerk in the State

by appropriating \$75,000 to the Western House of Refuge for Juvenile Delinquents, which was agreed to.

The Willard Asylumitem, which appropriates \$56,000 for contingent expenses, and \$100,000 to finish a new

group of buildings connected with the Asylam, was amended by striking out the latter clause.

An amendment was inserted after the Utica Asylam Item, appropriating \$3,000 for the additional expenses growing out of the examinations by the Bank Department of savings banks under the new law.

The expected discussion on the Elmira Reformatory ion was carried on pretty sharply between Mr. absent, but his Deputy said that there were no registered distilleries in the district, and that no lilled distilleries in the district distilleries and the representation forms \$75,000 to \$110,000, and the latter have paid in taxes, computed in taxes, computed in taxes, and all other expenses on the district and it have paid in taxes, and all other expenses in the district and it have paid in taxes, and all other expenses in the district and it have paid in taxes, and all other expenses in the tent as it stood. Mr. In the decade beginning 1 in the here of the feaths, and district and in th the Buffalo Asylum appropriation from \$200,000 to \$150,000, which was lost. Mr. Selkreg, by unanimous consent, inserted an amendment adding \$6,000 for the Cornell University, payable from the College Land Scrip Fund revenue. An amendment was also inserted allowing Senator Moore \$2,000 expenses of contested elec-

bill was then passed by a vote of 26 to 3-Mesers. Pox. Johnson, and Ledwith voting in the negative. The bill as now amended reduces the appropriations \$101,800, and adds others amounting to \$59,536.

RAPID TRANSIT KILLED IN THE ASSEM-BLY.
THE MOORE BILL RECOMMITTED, THE BILL RE-

CLUDE RAPID TRANSIT LINES FROM BROADWAY AND THIRD, FOULTH, AND FIFTH-AVES.

ALBANY, May 11.-All hope of Rapid Transit for New-York City, as resulting from this year's legislation, was apparently destroyed by the action of the Assembly to-night. The deed was effected at the command of the herse-car lobbylsts, who were busy in the looby and on the floor. The Moore Rapid Transit bill was recommitted, and that reported from the Committee on General Laws was voted down by amended by Mr. Brogan of New-York, so as to make Rapid Transit under it impossible, was carried by the same vote. When the Moore bill came up, Mr. Prince ALBANY, May 10. - For the first time since the ex-osure of the Canal Eing, some, at least, of the property-owners or of the Supreme Court was not prodied for; third, that it gave power to a commo three, appointed by local authorities, to grant a franchise which the Legislature itself could not grant. In these respects he considered it unconstitutional. The following First, it looked simply to the building of a single road, second, that while it was provided that the franchise sion power to reject any bid that it chose to reject; third, that it created a corporation with a most extraordinary grant of authority, being granted all powers "necessary and desirable." The bill was recommitted to the Ra road Committee, without instruction, except to report to-morrow morning. The Hess bill, being the one reported from the Committee on General Laws, was lost by a vote of 60 Yeas to 44 Nays. Mr. Princ's bill was finally carrried by a vote of 69 to 31, after it had been amended by Mr. Prince to strike out the section repedling all former charters to Rapid Trausit lines, and by Mr. Brogan so as to prohibit running cars in the Third, Fourth, and Fifth-aves., and Broadway, New-York, but not to prevent crossing them. This latter annexment was recognized at once as the device of the horse-car looby, and members interested in Rapid Transit took the alarm. Messrs. Thomas C. Campbell, Hess, Husted, and Speil all protested against the ground that this amends ent made Rapid Transit impossible; but the bill went through, nevertheless, and the horse-car lobby were jubilant.

> ANOTHER GRASSHOPPER PLAGUE IMMINENT. Sr Louis, May 11 .- A dispatch to The Evening Republican from St. Joseph says: "The grasshop-pers have multiplied and grown like magte in the past few days, causing widespread apprehension. The gar-dens of some portions of this city are literally black with them, and some meadows in the neighborhood have aiready been greatly damaged. Reports from the South-west reveal the fact that from here to the Rocky Mountains they exist in unparalleled numbers. Their size is from that of a fica to that of a horse-fly. In some counties of Kaneas they have already done vast sarm. A genthaman in this city yesterday from Neosho, Kau., said be had seen fields utterly destroyed in that locality already. Their course appears to be south-easterly, and their progress not to extend beyond the prairie regions. Wet weather is desired in the hope that it may check their career.

## CHARTER REFORM.

GOV. TILDEN'S MESSAGE. THE DOCUMENT READ AND REFERRED IN BOTH HOUSES-THE GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATIONS

ALBANY, May 11.-The Governor's message on Charter Reform was received and read in both Houses to-night. The Senate, as is generally the was more attentive than the Assembly. In both Houses it was referred to the Committee on Cities, with instructions to report at any time-a plan by which it was thought practical results would be seenest reached. There is little doubt that they will report without delay either a bill or concurrent resolution for the appointment of a commission, as peculiar magnitude and nature of the operations of recommended by the Governor. In case the members are to serve without pay, as is thought probable, a concurrent resolution will serve the purpose and occupy less time in its passage. The following is the text of the message :

> THE MESSAGE. STAIR OF NEW-YORK. EXECUTIVE CHAMBER, ALBANY, May 11, 1875.

To the Legislature: The Constitution (Art. 8,

contraction of municipal debts, and in the leaning of mution, though they were at that time but in the beginning tained. In the 29 years which have elapsed, the increase and incorporated villages, until, at the census of 1870, those organizations embraced more than 2,000,600, and actments favoring the growth of bunderpal expenditure. ITS REVISION AND PASSAGE IN THE SENATE-THE of the State are concerned, is shown by an abstract of APPROPRIATIONS REDUCED \$101,800, AND OTH- | reports from the 24 cities, which have been furnished to

The aggregate valuation of property in these cities ALBANY, May 11.—The Supply bill was taken subject to taxation in 1874, was \$1,569,535,674; the aggregate of city taxation was \$36,439,121; the aggregate of city taxation was o county and State taxation was \$13,900,487; the agdebt of these cities was \$175,657,267. Computing the taxation and debt on the population of 1870, adding 20

larger than a few years ago, taking account of rices of the products which, is order to at cost, we are compelled to convert into money.

CONSEQUENCES. The burdens upon tax-payers in cities are exhibited in various ways: bills for relief by the temperary funding of feating debts; bills authorizing leans to carry on or complete permanent improvements; frequent appeals PORTED FROM THE COMMITTEE VOTED DOWN, from his payers against the measures of local officials, so ntly between the contending parties, are among the incidents of the times. The choice between the opposite cyils which such cases present is often difficult and the result unsatisfactory. Works by the localities, as by the State, which ought not to have been underroper to overrule the local efficials without a more discent and assorted personni judgment than is poss-will not do to enforce the rule fluid bases for per-ent improvements shall be accompanied by a sig-ing fund in many cases where there-ing fund in many cases where there-defined a bill diverting funds rated by ament loan and not needed for its original ose, to carrent expenses, and I have insisted that making floating debts, the loans should be but tempor-cess by definence, each do neavided for by transito.

which shall be known as shall conform.

JUDICIAL REMEDIES. It is but just to the present Legislature to say that the three bills which it adopted with great unanimity, proiding judicial remedies against frauds, affecting the public moneys or property, are of more value for the reyears in which the mandate of the Constitution, in respect to municipal administration, has remained

ADDITIONAL MEASURES.

Additional measures of remedy and restraint can, no doubt, be devised in the legislation for local government. The tax-payers should be invested with powers of association and organization for the purpose of investigating the doings of their local officials and enforcing publicity, and

for the purpose of instituting suits in the courts to restrain and redress public wrongs, without having recourse to the ultimate resort designed for great cases, in an action by the State. They might also be endowed with capacity to take and execute contracts for public work, under the supervision of and on the plans fixed by the municipal officers. There is no reason, for instance, why the persons taxable for the improvement of a street should not be allowed to associate, and by their own agents execute the work for which they pay. Even then a still broader field opens for measures of reform. To define the powers of the local governing officials in matters of executive, taxation, assessment, and to create in effectual responsibility of those officials to the voters of the locality, to establish official accountability on their part, to adopt the mailinery most favorable to good administration—these are the objects which concern 2,400,009 of our people more deeply, perhaps, than any other question of administration that invites the public attention. an action by the State. They might also be endowed

The duty of the state to establish constitutional pro-

visions and to enact laws protecting, as far as practicable, the inhabitants of cities from abuses of maladminitration committed by the local governing officials, and preserving the rights of individual citizens and of the minerity as against the majority, is undeniable. The obthe State, in its collective capacity, and the local dithe State, in Ba collective capacity, and the local officers. In the theory of our civil polity, the sovereignty of the State, subject only to the strate sit has made to the Union, resides in the aggregate people of the whole State. All powers vested in the cities and incorporated villages, and in the municipal officers, and all powers vested in county and town officers, are theoretically delegations from the people, made by the Constitution or by-laws authorized by and enacted in pursuance of the Constitution. At the same time their utility for the purposes of local administration is so recognized by the sentiments of our people that it has come to be justly considered as an obligation to make them and a right to receive them.

The powers intrusted by the state to the local officials are administrative, special, and for local objects. In the most completely developed municipality they embrace the care of police, leadth, schools, streat-cleaning, provention of fires, simplying water and are, and similar matters most convenionity attended to in partnership by persons living together in a dense community, and the expenditure and taxation mency for these objects. The rights of persons, proper y, and the judicial systems instituted for their preservation—general legislation—government in its proper sense; these are vast domains which the functions of nonlicipal corporations and municipal officers do not touch.

FERGERESS OF LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT.

Its principle.

The political philosophy which has inspired this policy is founded on the theory that the individual is the best judge of what concerns himself exclusively. It aims to enlarge the domain of the individual conscience and judgment as much as practicable, and to limit and simplify the action of the Government in the affairs of individuals. A deduction from this philosophy is that where individuals are associated in a city or incorporated village, or even in those sub-divisions of the State that are termed in the law quasi corporations, there

trs conditions.

The essential conditions of local self-government or home rule in respect to those powers of administration

home rule in respect to those powers of administration which are intrusted to the locality are:

I. That there be an organism under which the elective power of the people can act conveniently and effectively, and can exercise an actual control at one election over those who represent it in the local administration.

II. That, in voting upon the administration of local affairs, the popular attention and the popular will be freed, as far as possible, from disturbing elements, especially from complications with state and national politics.

The ancient system where exists in the caunity, and worked well is New-York for a generation, by which manning a cleations were held at a time intermediate of the annual State and national elections, and arways commended itself to my pudriment as of great athiny and

HI. That the popular will, as declared at the elections, should be protected, as far as possible, from the effects of undue cone utration of power, patronage, and the means of corrupt infinence.

odies. So tar from official accountability in regular forms being

growing up in other parts of the State, we may study that experience with advantage. Anterior to the Constitution experience with advantage. Anterior to the Constitution of 1846 the practical governing population of this State was agricultural. Comparatively little attention had been paid to municipal government. In that instrument, white county and town systems received comparative protection, the charters of cities and incorporated villages were left almost absolutely within the control of the Logislature.

CHARTER OF 1830.

The City of Nev ork had gone on under a simple, popular government which had many elements of great value. Substantially, the administration was conducted by the Mayor and two Boards of the Common

PRICE FOUR CENTS. MEETING OF THE AMERICAN SOCIAL SCI-THE OPENING SESSION IN DETROIT - ADDRESSES BY

DAVID A. WELLS NO DAVID A. WASSON. TROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE. DETROIT, Mich., May 11 .- There was a good attendance at the Opera-house this evening at the opening of the meeting of the Social Science Association An address of welcome was delivered by Judge C. L. Walker of Detroit. Mr. David A. Wells read his address. Mr. Wasson's paper was read by Prof. C. K. Adams. Dr. D. J. Lincoln of Boston read a report from the Department of Health introducing pa-pers in relation to the health of pupils in public schools.

ENCE ASSOCIATION.

ADDRESS OF DAVID A. WELLS.

THE INFLUENCE OF THE PRODUCTION AND ACCUMU-LATION OF CAPITAL ON LOCAL DEVELOPMENT. LADIES AND GENTLEMEN: In welcoming you to this first meeting in the States of the North-West of the American Association for the Premotion of Social

nition of the fitness of things seems to require should be

accessily.

First functiful as may be this speculation, it is neverthe-But faneiful as may be this speculation, it is nevertheless a most interesting and successive enromanance that all of our true material precross is constantly in this same direction; incomen as the great result of every new invention or discovery in economic processes is to climinate or discharge value—making those things cheap waren were before dear, and oringing within the reach and use of all wint before were excussively for the use and expoyment of the tew. Thus, in 1170 Thomas a Besici was accounted extravagant because he had not part or streward every day with clean rushes; and for year, latter cloth was so carree that Shakespeare manea fracture which was the form stillings an eli, but howards which could be allowed a carpet for their partor; and makes allowances for the purchasing power of hodey at discient epochs, Fatstaff's four suffings would now give him hear torty times the same amounts.

quantity.

That this wonderful and combined increase in the grees product of every department of human industry and enterprise has been also attended with a general rise in the standard of countert, icasure and onto meat everywhere available to the masses is sufbest of the people. The majority are trustees for the whole, for the minority, and for each individual. At the present time the Senate and Assumbly, and the present time the Senate and Assumbly, and the foreign time the Senate and Assumbly, and the foreign time the Senate and Assumbly, and the minority are largely occupied by attention to measures which are in the hatme of appeals from the local administrative officials, Legislation is daily asked for, not merely for the purpose of emagging or modifying the powers of those officials according to the local warts, but for overruling their judgment, correcting their errors and redressing their woons. The grantom of remaing of such legislation often involves questions of extreme difficulty, to investigate and decide the merits of which is quite beyond the power of the mutitude of topics that accumulate in the closing weeks of the session.

EXPERIENCE OF THE METROPOLIS.

The most instructive chapter on the subject of municipal government which is to be found in our civic history is the experience of our great metropolis, which stands so conspicuous, not only in this State, but throughout the Union and before the world. As great cities are rapidly growing up in other parts of the State, we may study that experience with advantage. Anterior to the formal and recention of property, the masses, are becoming fast execution of property, the masses, are becoming fast. which they are beginning to find out, is that the hintermost who constitute in the struggle for the requirement
and retention of property, the masses, are becoming fast
conscious of their power and influence, and are determined of themselves, that they will not if they can help
it, be captured by this devil of civilization; and if
obliged to succeamb to him, may like the Communists of
Paris, oudcavor to draw down with them the whole faces
of seciety into one common vortex of destruction. Out
of the first of these have come schools, hospitals,
churches, sanitary and social reforms, the spirit
and the power of charity, and an brotherly kindness; but of the second, strikes, trades-dimons,
the expectabilizing antagonism of labor ngainst capital,
the spirit and teachings of socialism, the practices of
Communism. And there is yet one other thing
which society is also beginning to find out; and that is,
that these same questions relating to the production and
distribution of wealth affect an infinitely higher class of
interests than those measurable by dollars and centa-